

## Notes to the Town

November brings great news to LeRoy in the way of a grant from Assemblyman Charlie Nesbitt in the amount of \$55,000.00 for sidewalks on Summit Street Road. Town Budget public hearing takes place November 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM in the Town Hall. Election wrap up, transfer station news, roadway scheduled maintenance work and water district investigation remain on our agenda.

Assemblyman Charlie Nesbitt has awarded a Department of Transportation (DOT) grant for sidewalk on Summit Street in the Town to Bunnell Park. Traffic and safety issues with the new Jr. Sr. High School building are the reason for the grant. The Town will begin working on contract language with the DOT for the grant award. We have just begun to investigate constraints of drainage, easements and construction. Those homeowners on Summit Street may want to begin thinking about impacts of a sidewalk on the road right of way contiguous with your property. The Town will communicate with affected homeowners once we receive the contract language and directions from DOT. As a community we are very excited to have the opportunity to provide safe walking opportunities to our citizens to and from Bunnell Park.

Town Budget hearing is scheduled on Thursday, November 13, 2003 at 7:00 PM in the Town Hall. Town Board has worked hard to present an eighty-seven (.87) cent tax rate to the public. This proposed tax rate is an increase of 24% from 70 cents in 2003 to 87 cents proposed for 2004.

Reason for the increase is mandated contributions to the state retirement fund in the amount of \$64,000.00 for 2004 budget. This is an obligation of the Town as mandated by law. We have no input on this requirement nor were municipalities asked. The economic downturn is the reason for the increased mandatory contribution. The Town does have the opportunity to bond the additional contribution over 7 years. Town Board feels that putting off the increase will cost taxpayers more in the end. The proposed .17-cent increase in the tax rate is equal to \$42,000.00 in increased spending of the \$64,000.00 retirement contribution.

The proposed spending by fund shakes out as illustrated below:

	Appropriations	Estimated Revenue	Fund balance	Amount to be raised by taxes
A fund	1,217,371.00	835,235.00	254,436	127,700.00
B fund	251,953.00	251,953.00	0	0
DA fund	297,79.00	189,864.00	17,000.00	90,895.00
DB fund	273,862.00	242,330.00	31,532.00	0
TOTAL TAX LEVY				\$219,395.00

Town taxable rate is proposed at .87 cents.

Items we have removed from the requested budget to be at this rate are the following:

- 1 highway department pick up truck
- 1 highway department tractor
- reduced recreation staff budget line by 20,000 as shown by this years expenditures will not reduce the programs.
- Reduced recreation facility request by 15, 000, could delay park equipment replacement
- capped town elected officials salary
- entering in negotiations with town staff members for wage and benefit package
- reduced contingency funds in A & B by 20,000
- reduced materials for scheduled road repair due to carry over of 2003 yr.

These cuts were made to have the least possible impact on services yet still have a high priority placed on community safety. We invite you to attend the public hearing on Thursday, November 13, 2003 at 7:00 PM and share your opinion with Town Board.

The requested budget by department taxable rate was \$1.87. Town Board has made significant changes to bring this proposed tax rate to the citizens of LeRoy.

Town of LeRoy has been requested to circulate a petition for REFORMING OF MEDICAID NOW! This petition is being placed in every municipality in the 28 upstate counties for distribution and signature collection. Every community group, business and individual taxpayer is welcome to have a copy of the petition to circulate. We have to collectively send a message to Albany that our counties cannot bear this increasing burden of Medicaid spending. The petition wording is as follows:

*The failure of New York State to reform the financing of its Medicaid program is causing county governments across the state to drastically raise taxes, lay-off thousands of employees, eliminate essential public services and reduce funding to needed infrastructure improvements, educational, recreational and cultural programs. This is compromising the quality of life in our communities and is having a seriously negative impact on efforts to promote economic development, preserve private sector employment and control our local property tax burden. From the year 2000 to projected FY 2004, the Medicaid "Local Share" line item in the Genesee County budget has increased 75.6%. It is imperative that this fiscal crisis be addressed by our elected officials, both State and Federal, immediately. We, the undersigned residents of New York State, demand that you act without delay!*

We hope you will consider stopping by and adding your signature to this critical petition.

Town Board in collaboration with LeRoy Business Council is beginning the web site update process. We are looking at adding forms, code and zone information, maps, exemption forms, Town Board minutes, recreation opportunities, contact information to

all Town Departments and some area attraction links for attraction chaining. If your business would like to be linked to the community site please send information to [supervisor@leroyonline.com](mailto:supervisor@leroyonline.com). This process will take some time to perfect and it will always need minor adjusting. We hope this comprehensive upgrade will be a great start.

#### Departmental News-

Highway is finishing up shoulder work on roads and appreciates your care when traveling through a work zone. Transfer Station is open every Saturday 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM.

Punch cards available at Town Hall.

Town Clerk indicates that she is still able to issue second doe permits for limited areas in New York State. Please call for area information at 768-6910 ext. 224.

Patty also reports that Election Day went well for the election inspectors who serve the community. Huge thanks for the 32 people who undergo training and oversee balloting. We recognize it is a long day and are very appreciative of those who serve. Thank you.

Assessor reports that the entire Town outside Village has been reviewed visually.

Updated information is being entered into the Real property inventory cards. She also reports exemption forms will be in the mail soon. All of those citizens age 65 and older in 2004 are eligible for star exemptions. Please do not let this exemption opportunity pass by.

Code & Zone Officer reports Planning Board meeting of Town will review design criteria at their next meeting.

Recreation Director indicates the indoor girls soccer program is off and running! Over 50 participants are taking part in the six weeklong sessions. Three other programs are scheduled before the end of the year. Please read ad in this Pennysaver.

Enchanted Tunnel is being constructed once again this year. Volunteers lead by Anne Walters are starting to create that magical experience. If you could volunteer a few hours to help please contact Ann at the Hobby Horse. Enchanted Tunnel dates and times are:

- Friday, Dec 5 6:30 PM – 9:00 PM
- Saturday, Dec 6 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM
- Sunday, Dec 7 12:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Water News – We are waiting yet for the announcement of the residual of the grant for Ext. 1.

Water District 6 is finishing up paperwork. Monroe County Water will contact those residences for change over information, as time is appropriate.

Extension #6 is meeting for public information and hearing on November 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM in Town Hall.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you in an elected capacity.

Shelley Stein, Supervisor  
768-6910 ext. 231